

PCT/IB 01/02462

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G03F9/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G03F H01L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 414 514 A (MODIANO ALBERTO M ET AL) 9 May 1995 (1995-05-09) cited in the application column 2, line 52 -column 4, line 59; figures 1-8	1,5,9
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 014, no. 258 (P-1055), 4 June 1990 (1990-06-04) -& JP 02 069604 A (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD), 8 March 1990 (1990-03-08) abstract; figures	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

27 March 2002

Date of mailing of the international search report

05/04/2002

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Heryet, C

Examined Document considered 11/24/01

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>MOEL A ET AL: "NOVEL ON-AXIS INTERFEROMETRIC ALIGNMENT METHOD WITH SUB-10 NM PRECISION" JOURNAL OF VACUUM SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: PART B, AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS. NEW YORK, US, vol. 11, no. 6, 1 November 1993 (1993-11-01), pages 2191-2194, XP000423398 ISSN: 0734-211X page 2191, right-hand column -page 2192; figures 2,3</p> <p>EXAMINER CONSIDERED</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i> 11/24/04</p>	1,5,9

RECEIVED
APR 22 2002
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800